

Message Text

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PAGE 01 VICTOR 00361 231711Z
ACTION PM-04

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00
/022 W

-----061118 240154Z /65

R 231342Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY VICTORIA
TO USS JONAS INGRAM
COMIDEASTFOR
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 430
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

C O N F I D E N T I A L VICTORIA 361

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MILI, PINS, SE
SUBJECT: VISIT OF USS JONAS INGRAM

REF VICTORIA 357 NOTAL

1. RESPONSE TO LOGREQ (REFTEL) IS UNCLASSIFIED. REQUEST ALL
FUTURE CABLES ON VISIT OF INGRAM BE UNCLASSIFIED TO EXTENT POSSIBLE.

2. FOR COMIDEASFOR: SUGGEST IN FUTURE THAT INITIAL PLANNING OF
SHIP'S VISITS BE CLASSIFIED ONLY UNTIL CLEARANCE OBTAINED AT WHICH TIME

ALL TRAFFIC SOULD BE UNCLASSIFIED TO EXTENT POSSIBLE. CLASSIFIED
LOGREQ MEANS FOR EXAMPLE THAT EMBASSY LOCAL STAFF CANNOT SEE
CABLES REGARDING VISIT DESPITE FACT CHANDLERS, PROTOCOL, PORT
OFFICE AND OTHERS HAVE BEEN INFORMED OF VISIT. CLASSIFICATION
CREATES DIFFICULTY IN PHYSICAL HANDING OF CABLES WHILE CONTENTS
TELEPHONED ALL OVER TOWN.

3. FOR USS JONAS INGRAM: AS YOU ARE AWARE, SINCE JUNE 5 COUP D'ETAT NEW

PRESIDENT AND GOVERNMENT HAVE BEEN INSTALLED IN SEYCHELLES.
EMBASSY WOULD LIKE TO REQUEST THAT CREW BE GIVEN SPECIAL PRE-
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ARRIVAL BRIEFING AT WHICH THEY WOULD BE INSTRUCTED NOT TO INITIATE
OR PARTICIPATE IN ANY DISCUSSIONS OF LOCAL POLITICS
WHILE ASHORE ON LIBERTY. THOUGH LOCAL SCENE IS PRESENTLY CALM, COUP
OCCURED LESS THAN THREE WEEKS AGO AND EMOTIONS ON BOTH SIDES
STILL AT HIGH PITCH. RECENT EVENTS AND NEW GOVERNMENT HAVE
INCREASED FEELINGS OF NATIONALISM. SOME OF MEN YOUR CREW WILL
ENCOUNTER IN PUBLIC PLACES WERE PARTICIPANTS

IN COUP AND IT POSSIBLE SUPPORTERS OF EITHER OR BOTH PARTIES
MAY ATTEMPT TO BAIT U.S. SAILORS. ANY ASSISTANCE YOU CAN PROVIDE
IN THIS AREA TO ENSURE AN INCIDENT FREE VISIT WILL BE MUCH
APPRECIATED.

4. NEW POLICE COMMISSIONER (OLD ONE WAS DEPARTED ON FIRST NIGHT
OF COUP) HAS INDICATED TO US THAT SECURITY WILL BE MORE STRICTLY
ENFORCED THAT USUAL DURING INDEPENDENCE CELEBRATION. THIS IS
BECAUSE OF CONCERN FOR POLITICAL VIOLENCE OR A COUNTER COUP
ATTEMPT.

5. LOCAL SITUATION WIL BE DISCUSSED FURTHER, ONBOARD, UPON YOUR
ARRIVAL WHEN EMBASSY STAFF BOARDS SHIP. WOULD APPRECIATE FEW MINUTES
WITH CAPTAIN, EXECUTIVE OFFICER AND OTHER KEY OFFICERS FOR BRIEFING
ON LOCAL SITUATION PRIOR TO C.O.'S CALL ON PRESIDENT RENE.
REQUEST THAT LOCAL AUTHORITIES, CHANDLERS, ETC, BE KEPT AWAY
FROM BRIEFING AREA - SUGGEST OFFICER'S WARDROOM.

MATTSON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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